

DOLL TALK

FOR . . .
COLLECTORS

Volume 9, Number 1

July-August, 1951

Ah Spain!

You do not have to be a Franco friend, pro the proletariat or anti Alphonso to get a gay lift from these cunning Barcelona Dolls. Their faces are the round-eyed plump cheeked kind, similar to those that Madame Lenci originated over in Torino, Italy, oh about 1921. Their slim young bodies sway into happy poses, Pablo a' fiddlin', Pavolina, fandangling! Their felt shod feet suggest sturdy ancestry of peasant. Their hair—well that must be divided, as hers is the sleek, classic Spanish style with huge chignon, felt comb and posies, while Pablo's is an upstanding mop of fur—ah, ze artiste!

Of course, this pair of entertainers was really made in Spain, and that's a bit encouraging; we are glad to know that individual design, creative talent and commercial enterprise can be tied together there in a land long struggling. Kimport is proud to present Senorita Pavolina, danseuse extraordinary, tripping the tromping fantastic to the straining strains of virtuoso, Don Pablo. Never have we had a pair who look more eager to knock themselves out for your approval! Eleven inches tall.

No. 1006A—Pavolina, the Dancer
\$7.50

No. 1006 Pablo, the Fiddler \$7.50



DO YOU KNOW -

That the German marking "Holz Masse" merely means, made of wood. "Waschesht," washable, and "D.E.P." simply stands for copyright?

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DOLLS - FOLK DANCING

Dolls and their doin's are neither seasonal nor spot news, and that's our alibi for being so pokey betimes. One couldn't call a story like this, for instance, "rushing into print," as the San Francisco Examiner from whence it comes is dated, Sunday, July 16, 1950.

But there, in the Smart Set magazine section is a feature story entitled "Folk Dancing Puts New Vim Into Many Bay Area Folk." It was a story of high praise for the good medicine of folk dancing in a section where, "there are thousands of young folk, married couples and oldsters who make up the nearly THREE HUNDRED folk and square dance groups in this area.

And what has this swirl of strenuous activity to do with inanimate dolls? Why, dolls it was who got the illustration, that hobby tangent once again which is always focusing collection dolls in the limelight. Anna Carlson and her wonderful Dad were pictured in lovely peasant dress with a cabinet of Kimport and other folk dolls. So, we'll continue the Examiner article, even through the "commercial" for dancing.

"How far they take it is delightfully illustrated by a unique collection of folk-dancer dolls, in the complete authentic costumes of scores of folk and square dances, assembled as a hobby by Mrs. Anna Carlson. Mrs. Carlson herself is a folk dance enthusiast, and—at an avowed but unbelievable 54—an active member (and former president of) Telephone Twirlers, the telephone company's square dance group. Naturally, the first dolls she made were blue and white clad

Telephone Twirlers in square dance formation. To them, she has added Russian dolls dancing the Korobushka, "Bruder Lustig" dancers (Bavarian), French, Swiss, Spanish, Swedish, Hungarian dancers. Barefoot dolls in big-sleeved black and white costumes doing a Philippine dance. Western folk dancers costumed like Redwood City's Docey-Do Club. Dolls dancing the Portuguese Fado Blanquita. Cute little Swiss doing Meitschi Putz Di.

By no means is Anna Carlson the only dancer in her family. A doctor friend first told me about Anna's father, Julius Dobkowitz, age 76. "I operated on him ten years ago—a very serious major operation. Told him that he would of course, have to take it easy the rest of his life," the surgeon said. "Next thing I heard he was out folk dancing again!—he's marvelous!" Looks marvelous too, in the Polish or Russian or Mexican costumes he and his daughter wear for some of their celebrated festival numbers."

P. S. For replicas of specially designed costumes worn by local groups, Anna C. has bought Kimport's imported Doll House Dolls, the men and women 5 inches tall. These have heavy, metal feet so will stand in almost any position; the bodies are entirely pliant to pose. Faithful attention to styling, detail and fine needlework has resulted in many a couple to delight the club or group which is thus represented by her dolls.

Bendable man, 5¼ inches tall, is No. 600; 5-inch woman, No. 600A, \$2.25 each. While these imported dolls do come completely and conservatively dressed, they may be re-costumed to suit any turn of imagination.



Spanish dancers, the folk dance hobby and now here are Judy and Jo. They are a pair that you'll recognize, that is, if you happen to have teen-agers in the family circle. Sorry, we haven't the vocabulary to do justice to these pert Bobby Sockers who worship at the shrine of Frank Sinatra, Harry James and Benny Goodman. Today's hottest slang would be old-hat tomorrow, but a Teen Town pair from the postwar 40's should certainly have a niche — or a "groove." Her headscarf, rolled up "levis," shirt tail and saddle shoes are a uniform as definitely as that prescribed for a WAC. And so's Jo's. Snazzy tho', ain't th'y—or is it snitty? Hand painted, cute faces; dolls made on a wire frame so they can really boogy-bend to woogy-wow all beholders.

8½" Jo — No. 57 — \$5.00

8" Judy — No. 57A — \$5.00

A TANGENT WITH WINGS

Mrs. Chester Mook's "Bird Hospital" isn't even a tangent to her doll hobby, but she wrote such a friendly letter, including this story. Our Doll Talk excuses for passing it along is that some of you know,

or know of, Mrs. M. We like her doll news betimes and also this is a good story to read to your little granddaughters. My three loved it.

"I would like to attend your doll shows especially when they are in Cleveland, Ohio, but with all other work, I have a bird hospital for little birds that are hurt or lose their mothers. To date, we have had five pigeons, two cardinals, four sparrows, two robins and a whippoorwill. That last one will stay all winter as he was stoned by boys and badly hurt. They say it is impossible to raise them, but I have had it two months. I feed it raw beef three times a day, morning, evening and midnight, as well as wheat germ capsules, strong in Vitamin E. A whippoorwill sleeps all day and is awake at night. The other especially interesting bird patient is a black pigeon that had it's back broken two years ago on the Fourth of July. I have the entire care of feeding and turning a bird that is helpless and is in a baby-doll bed with clean sheets and covers. This little patient really receives as much care as any baby. She is bathed every day and goes out in the car and has traveled a thousand miles riding. She eats grain and wheat germs and has buchu leaf tea as she does not like plain water to drink. She is so patient and her greeting to me sounds just like "hello, hello," and to my husband whom she does not love, it is "hub hub," just a good disgusted grunt. They say a pigeon can live twenty years or more, so I certainly will have a good job for the rest of my life. I let the others go when raised and of course, some do die."



Last mailing we splurged so extravagantly on the enclosure, European dolls from over a dozen lands, that we hope you'll sort of cherish that sheet in lieu of a catalogue. We are proud of that assembly and would mail it with a sample of Doll Talk to any collector minded friend you might suggest to us. You could ask for an extra one for yourself, if you wanted one.



I made a crayon sketch of the British Guiana dolls, EAST Indians, NORTH coast of SOUTH America, WESTERN Hemisphere, but you'll need their pedigree page to understand all this directional mix-up! Made of balata sap, brown with great black eyes protruding, jet

or gray hair modeled with finger-nail lines, jointed, and traditionally dressed are these ancient Moslems, now of the New World. Truly fascinating collector items, No 279 for the turbaned man and 279A for his wife in her sari. \$3.95 each.

One time when we talked about Polish Stanislaw and Anna, Gorale young folk from the Carpathian Mountains, our stock sold out—pft! There is a considerable shipment just in, pretty, blue-eyed dolls with well shaped features, silky floss hair and cloth arms wired to take all poses. His romantic white costume features embroidered trousers with matching jacket slung over one shoulder, a girdle width belt and felt hat with a feather. The carved cane with ax-like handle is another identifying possession. Anna's full petticoat is braid trimmed; her shoes, like Stanislaw's, are home made moccasin affairs. Over print skirt and white blouse she wears an apron and rich, fur trimmed, sleeveless coat. Nine inches tall, No. 901 and 901A for boy and girl, \$4.50 each. Of course, they were made in Poland.

'Wish you could have seen our receiving room the day five dozen wooden pigmies arrived from Kenya. Black, naked, except for the many filaments of fine wire necklaces, these 5 inch aborigines seemed to be swarming all over the big table. Each stands solidly on flat, splay feet, and each has a sharpened stake or spear that thrusts through an opening carved into his hand. Long headed, well carved and polished, we think you'd be thrilled with one—but not an army of them. No. 107P. \$4.50 each. Not boys and girls but even so, a pair is effective.



mentioned. For you "literary" collectors, Carolyn John did make up enough Robinson Crusoes for us to dare to mention here. Miss John's real people with soft bodies, masterfully carved wooden heads and limbs are definitely and always favorites of Ye Editor. Shaggy, wise-eyed Mr. Crusoe in his lonely island dress of leather, fur and sail cloth is a little masterpiece.



Slightly akin, in color at least, and of primitive type, are those wonderful Sarah Midgley Australian dolls. The pedigree pages of Widgeon, the Witch Doctor, and aboriginal Chief relate how this remarkable octegenarian, Mrs. Midgley, was taken to Australia as a tot, when that amazing continent was really raw frontier. Her few hand made dolls are a collection opportunity, one of the best buys of all foreign dolls. They would not be found in stores of Australia, even if you journeyed 'round the world to there in quest! Thirteen inches tall, so cleverly made, so different, the pretty girl, Widgeon is No. 282A; white haired old "Vitch", No. 282C, and fear-somely painted Chieftain, with boomerang and spear, No. 282B. Only \$7.50 each, but limited stock.

A brilliant hued parrot, riding his shoulder, adds color. Nine inches tall, autographed on shoe sole, R. C. is No. 48M, \$12.00. Miss John was so intrigued with this character that she made up one only in 16 inch size. He is wonderful, but so are the shelf size ones. No. 48R —\$35.00.

Still by Carolyn John, we will lay aside two book character pairs, one shiney, brown Topsy, and blonde Eva, imp and cherub, 11 and 10 inches tall. Topsy grins broadly, but there's a wisful look

There are a few late arrival "State-side" dolls that must be

in her big black eyes. Ill kempt pigtails, sack cloth dress, knobby slim legs and of course, big feet are bare. Little Eva, the lamb—looks angelically delicate enough to be translated soon! They are marked \$17.50 each; this pair to close, No. 48 T & E, \$29.00.

The other twosome is really a late arrival, crisp and oh, so pretty Jack and Jill. They are 8 and 8½ inches tall, Jill is so pretty in print and pinafore of organdie, red leather slippers, powder blue hair ribbons. Young Jack, equally handsome, wears a suit of the rosey red suede, pique shirt and a hunter green, quaint leather cap. Their hair is suede leather—and even the pail is a hand made, most artistic thing. No. 48JJ, the two—\$27.00.



Coming back from my Carolyn John tangent, here is a small beauty, small price, in well loved Gay Nineties attire. She is a Ruthellin creation, 7 inch size, with well modeled and painted head. Made with her dainty slippered feet cemented onto plywood base.

It is sheer satisfaction to once more have stock on Japanese dolls worthy of any collection. Now we have a group of Kabuki dolls from Kyoto, famed city of Festival Doll industry. Geisha girl dolls come in a variety of colors, dress and poses. With a flute, or flowers, we may

guess that the lady loves music and beauty. One intriguing version is the girl with a horse head puppet—ah, the races! In all styles she wears the elaborate “shimada” hairdress, so difficult to prepare that her pillow when sleeping is a hollow block of wood, leaving her head unsupported, but preserving her coiffure.

The kimono which hugs her slender figure is bound at the waist by the traditional “obi” or wide sash. Faces are a glass like composition made from a secret formula, in which they supposedly use powdered eggshells as the main ingredient. Each doll is on a wooden base. No. 805 Jap Geisha Girl, 8 inches tall, \$5.95 each.

And “lastly”—how’s about a really well made, cute, clean Mammy? The 9 inch sample, by Hazel, was too attractive to turn down, so Kimport ordered a few, as it seemed there had been some requests for such a one. Rag doll, cuddly and small, with embroidered features, perfect wig of soft tight curls, bandana red dress and cap, white stockings, underwear, apron and scarf. No. 198, \$1.75.

ROLLS HER OWN

You can’t cheat an honest doll-maker. Alta Vander Las of California admits to pulling success out of discouragement. “I’ve had a lot of fun,” she writes, “experimenting with dried apple and pear dolls. These latter turned so black that I made them into the family of Black Jumbo, Black Mumbo and Li’le Black Sambo! In elegant contrast is my sachet doll, Lady Lavender. She is woven of lavender sticks and ribbon, with a parasol, and of course, she is sweetly stuffed with fragrant dried lavender blooms.”

LET'S RENDEZVOUS IN SAN FRANCISCO

It's vacation time; the weather will be perfect (we promise) and the McKims will have a beautiful assortment of Kimport Dolls awaiting your visit. Needlework Dept., The Emporium, San Francisco—Aug. 13-18th.

ALREADY COLLECTED

Mrs. Jason H. Robberson sent in this bit of data about one wing—or shoe—of her collection:—

"A group of nineteen miniature dolls are made up as the family of the Old Woman in the shoe. Six of them are little old chinas with sawdust bodies and the others all Frozen Charlottes. Only the two

tiniest are blondes. This was assembled in 1858. The Mama and the older daughters have flat soled shoes. They are placed in an old-fashioned satin ladies slipper with Mama's chair built into the heel—one bed, two chairs inside the shoe. The poem with it is very quaint,

"DAME COMFORT AND FAMILY"

This is little Dame Comfort, presented to you,
 Another Old Woman who lives in a shoe;
 But she never gives broth without any bread,
 Or whips her poor children and sends them to bed;
 But she teaches them how to be happy and good,
 Pay respect to their elders, and never be rude;
 Be kindly affectionate one to another,
 And never to tease little sister or brother;
 To be ready at all times to set self aside
 And check the first symptoms of passion or pride;
 To be early to bed and early to rise,
 And pray every day to be harmless and wise.
 Thus Little Dame Comfort with children eighteen,
 Guides all with discretion becoming a queen.
 In her arms are the twins little Neddie and Fred,
 While Lucy and Tommy and Jane are in bed.
 At the foot in the bath you will find Master Walter,
 A second Tom Thumb but decidedly shorter;
 On the edge playing horse are Willie and John,
 And Charles near his mother is full of his fun;
 While young Master James a pretty tall chap,
 Holds Lilly and Daisy in state on his lap;
 Little Fanny has slyly crept out of bed.
 And out of the toe is popping her head,
 To listen to Sidney reading aloud,
 To his good brother, Dick, about vapor and cloud.
 In full dress you'll perceive Miss Sophia and Ada,
 The first in gold bracelets because she's the elder,
 But one little maid in my hurry I've passed,
 Her name is Helena, she stands near the bath.
 Rossville S. I. 1858.



Even in "Speaking of Antiques", we try to maintain the good American way of looking at everything squarely across the board, not "up to" or "down to" any one. We like to offer rare, museum class treasures—at the substantial prices their dolls require—without being high hat to collectors who keep in their now shrunken budgets. We like to tell about odd little old dolls such as metal heads, good celluloid, ordinary hair style chinas and sleepy eye bisques, without apology. Some of your mamas played with these beloveds; they are not replaceable, so are collector items now on the way to becoming antiques. These are not expensive, but honorable in their place.

Then, again in American tradition, is that wonderful majority of desirable antiques running the gamut of such materials as, wood, papier-mâché, leather, glazed china, the bisques and parian, wax, waxed cloth and various compositions. There are countless variations of these basics. The more one sees and studies, the more one discriminates. A good antique from this price can be laid away at Kim-port and paid out to fit almost any purse plan.

But first, for the most advanced collector, for her who has, or can have almost anything, here are three:

(1) A Goodyear rubber in perfect condition, 13½" tall with old cambric body, leather arms and shoes; precious "dish" face, not one speck retouched; long black curls of the modeled hard rubber,

of course. How's that for a treasure? To quote from "Gum-Elastic and It's Varieties— (1853-55)" Charles Goodyear writes of his vulcanizing discovery and lists hundreds of items including "dolls, toys and trifles. . . . These dolls cannot be injured by the ordinary play of children." Some Goodyear doll heads are marked "Goodyear Pat. March 28, 1854-1868." Others have been stamped I. R. C. Co." (India Rubber Co., then of 44 Cliff St., N. Y. C.) Our Miss Goodyear is stamped "New York Rubber Co. Goodyear Pat. 9448." She is elaborately dressed in a hand sewn pure silk print, with a color etching of the 1851 Godey from which her gown, bonnet and redingote were copied. No. AB946, \$180.00.

Another "pre-Greiner" is the prized Izannah Walker cloth doll, actually looking more like a quaint oldfashioned portrait than a doll! We have one in pristine condition, not a brush stroke of repainting on the dear, American primitive. Eighteen inches tall, her well rounded head is poised proudly on sharply sloping but full shoulders. Her large brown eyes, dusty rose cheeks, high, high forehead and decided nose are all "well rounded". Ears, as well as shapely hands and feet are nice features of these cloth, oil painted dolls. Underwear is precious; so is the wine and cherry striped silk dress, with a pocket in the folds of it's skirt, but it's so old and broken as to be literally quilted to it's lining!

We said "pre-Greiner" knowing of course that Mr. Ludwig G. had patents dated 1858, while Mrs. Walker's first one reads in 1873. But she made dolls of the same type she finally copyrighted for

good twenty years before that grant. Our Miss Izannah is No. AB357, \$150.00.

For that third "super c'lossal", here are two soldiers, by Montanari, or perhaps some earlier French genius who also inserted every hair into his life-like doll heads of solid wax. Their hands are gutta percha, wired. These dolls are 14 inches tall with perhaps a feathered cockade or some ornament on the cap adding additional height. They are in good condition, may have been portrait figures of ancestors or may be just Gentlemen of the Regiment. Every tiny detail, the buckles, buttons, special insignia, the cords, small braided ornaments and all are perfect to scale. A pedigree page tells the tale of how these chateau treasures were sent to Kimport. We doubt that you have ever seen their like.

On the 5 inch square base of No. AF-1, a leather medallion stamped in gold reads, "Chasseurs A Cheval (Jiune Garde) Garde Imperiale 1 RR Empire." The gentleman has brown (glass) eyes, hair rather bristly, sideburns and an aggressive mustache. The fronts of his coral red jacket, slung over the left shoulder, are solidly braided in buff wth eight dozen gold buttons, and there are as many more on his dark green leather blouse coat! Big leather dispatch bag, black like his boots, is worn from an intricately buckled "harness" of white leather. It has an exquisitely wrought Napoleonic gold crowned eagle on the face side. Black astrakan fur, a tall leather cap in matching coral and gold trim with bright green pompom are other details.

The second is a handsome, gray haired officer, also with sideburns

but smooth shaven. His leather name tag reads, "Artillerie A Pied—Garde Imperiale 1 RR Empire". Eyes are deep blue, as is the uniform, enriched with rose red facing, epaulets, white leather and gilt buttons, 1/8 inch across, but bearing raised insignia of the Empire Eagle. There is a roll on his shoulders above brown horsehair knapsack, and leather case with five gold ornaments. He wears a sword in gold and leather scabbard—perfect—white bearskin busby, all correctly trimmed with gold, with red cockade. No. AF-2. The others in original custom series of six sold at \$250.00 each. Now, minus 10%—or \$225.00 post-paid, per doll, but really priceless!

And now half a dozen or more of those dollies for beginner collectors, for you who want to fill in some spot inexpensively—or for you who love dolls, but just plain can't afford too much money.

There's an early Frozen Charlotte with fancy hair style, high glaze, with tassels modeled on her shoe tops; all white except black hair and prettily painted face; nose is a bit flat; 3 inch size. No. A444, \$3.75.

A pair of jointed bisque twin babies, 2½ inch size, are so chubby, so rosy in their original knit cloth store outfits and tassel topped caps. "Curly" legs inside the leggin's; cute doll-house size. No. A467, for the two, \$7.50.

A solid, heavy, bisque girl, circa 1885, has brown wig, wire jointed arms, and for the unusual features, the slickest white glaze stockings with big blue tassels at the knees. All perfect and original condition; 5½ inches tall, No. AB1063, \$5.00.

One lone Quintuplet—"Cecile",

so says her gold locket on a chain. She is 7½ inches tall, a two year old toddler in dingy green organdie. All perfect, including snap slippers. By Madame Alexander, about 1936. No. A245, \$2.50.

We do have one complete matched set of all five, but that's a different story. Seven inch, brown-eyed and wigged baby tots in pastel tints. Their name lockets are made onto pretty gold bar pins and the price for all is \$30.00. No. A218. Believe it or not, such a series item rarely is offered.

Ordinary hair style (1900) a few 8 and 9 inch undressed dolls with china heads, arms and legs. No. A163C, \$3.50 each.

We pause for a Commercial. Yes, "Radiotron" is a much be-jointed wooden boy with jolly face and radio tube cap, made for an R. C. A. display. His pink ball hands are cut to hold announcement cards; bright colored, firm standing, perhaps never a sold item, this 16 inch acrobat appeared with the early tube stage of radio. No. AG231, \$5.00.

"Mrs. Noah", is a 9½ inch toy woman, came out of a trunk with other trinkets that had been bought on a European trip about sixty years ago. Whittled wood head and deep shoulders, almost 3 inches high, on the crudest cloth roll body—ankles almost as large around as her Noah's Ark style head! Paper hat and petticoat, red cretonne long dress, No. A900, \$3.50.

Forty year old, ten-inch rubber doll child with sad blue eyes, molded on socks and slippers and a scalloped silver voice button in the back of her brushed rubber head. She still squeaks and really is a cute collector "different" No. A42, \$2.50.

A pretty one, 10½ inch tall little girl might mark a sort of borderline into the middle class. Her owner had bought her in Boston, "about 1910" she thought and that this tot with brown bobbed hair and jointed, tight stuffed body "represented some fiction character". That's vague, but in her own right, this doll is a darling. The head is made in the manner of Kathe Kruse, oil painted cloth, well pressed into a cute, child mold with tanned complexion and brown eyes. Clean as new; freshly dressed No. A384, \$8.50.

Pair of heavy metal figurines that we took from the base of an ornate old clock case. Romantically stylized fisher lad with long net slung over his shoulder like a drapery, and equally handsome hunter in picturesque garb with one hand resting on his rifle. Eight inches high, dark, on hexagonal bases, perfect except for one crack at the back, near the base of the stump against which one figure leans. Really decorative, this pair of clock dolls is No. A942, \$13.50.

Parson-Jackson is a good American trademark; babies, made of celluloid composition (solid), Cleveland, 1914, stork trademark. Here offered is a 12½ inch infant of their larger size; head 10 inches in circumference, but we think replacement jointed composition body. Perfectly proportioned, baby dressed, No. A281, \$19.00.

Much prettier is "Kiddie Joy", a 17 inch soft bodied baby with celluloid hands and adorable German bisque head, 13 inches in circumference. Brown, sleeping eyes, two lower teeth, lovely real baby dress, as this one, No. A391, is almost life size; \$23.00.

Creche dolls of the 18th and early 19th century (some earlier still) should certainly be represented in a well rounded collection. Not too expensive is a young man who looks quite like Lord Byron; 10 inch size. Superbly modeled head is terra cotta with wind-blown modeled hair, faint smile and handsome inset eyes of porcelain. Legs are terra cotta, hands a replacement of carved dark wood like walnut. Interesting costume in old ivory, gold and deep red. No. 4506C, \$45.00.

Almost as old, but a play dolly is wooden, peg jointed "Laura", scant 9 inches tall. Her round ball head is carved back under the high brow for sunken eyes, but out for the pert little nose. Paint seems original; brown wood for her body and limbs looks 130 years old, as do her quaint cloth garments also. One long blouse sleeve is empty, otherwise Laura is remarkably preserved. No. AB128 \$42.00.

Large and imposing is Lady Amber, 23 inches from her white crown of real angora hair to the stubby toes of her plump blue stockinged legs. She is a doll of the early 1880's, composition or Holtz Masse head with large amber brown eyes that really have a golden glow to the glass; not the tiniest chip around these either, but a corner off of one shoulder. Amber is beautifully dressed in heavy old silk, hand made with a queer velvet toque to match. No. A452, \$30.00.

Most oldfashioned looking of all dolls are those early papier-mache heads made up with the slimmest of leather bodies, with wooden arms and legs. Recently, we secured a 7 inch lady that is unusually small. She is in good, original

condition, although it does look like the shoulders have been repainted, but not the face. There is a pug of hair at the back of her head; very smooth hair styling like an inverted V to a high center part that loops down onto the cheek and then up a bit over the ears. Old costume is net, very fine, and yellowed with age, over pink linen. Circa 1830; No. A427, price \$40.00.

PRIMER BODIES

During the 1880's and early Gay Nineties, there was a fad, a bold expression by some German body-makers, print cloth bodies used with china head and limbs. Little girls were preferring pretty bisques with wigs, glass eyes, a row of teeth. Ach, but hadn't lowbrow china heads been good big sellers —hadn't they made money for the firm for many years? So—we will add a novelty; instead of cream or pink muslin, make them up with picture prints; stuffed with the same sawdust, topped by the same little china heads these various patterned bodies did have quite a run.

Examples that have come Kimport way include, flags, flowers, state names, simple problems in numbers.

Miss Adelene Johnson, N. J., once mentioned her rather crude domino and pineapple prints. Of course, home dollmakers could have used any material at hand, but it's the factory made ones we class under the blanket heading "Primer Prints."

DO YOU KNOW -

Any doll is returnable to Kimport if not acceptable, for any reason?

A SALE SUGGESTION

Mildred Hobdell writes from Pennsylvania, ordering "Queenie" for a seven-year-old's birthday gift. She wrote:- "With the Western craze for children to have clothing and everything else "Hop Along Cassidy", "Roy Rogers", etc., why don't you picture the Rodeo pair again in Doll Talk?



Suggest using them as birthday (or other) gifts. Girls are just as 'western crazy' as the boys."

Thanks, Mrs. Hobdell, and here's the reprint of one of our own top favorite pairs, Cheyenne made Rodeo Rex and Queenie. Their creator is Anna Laura Bonham, who achieves amazing effects with twisty wire frames, modeled heads, hats and boots, leather glove hands, suede, sheepskin an' slick satin outfits. This duded up pair

has long been used as Wyoming representatives in the Kimport line about 8½ inches; No. 148 and 148A for him and her, \$3.95 each.

- "IS LIKE A RED, RED ROSE"

Mrs. Joseph Tall, with two sons in Korea, takes time to write us of a new pair of Bavarian dolls—"made by nuns in Munich for the benefit of their children's hospital there." These came through as a gift from an Ex-WAC friend. Mrs. Tall's thought about gift dolls for any collector, gives one a bit of insight into her character. "A doll collection grows like a garden where each cherished addition ever reminds one of the friend who gave it. . . My hope is that we may soon gain back the peace of mind to really enjoy dear things like dolls and flowers."

THEY'RE MADE INTO—

Doll Talk articles on "They're Made From" always received a good response and often stirred an ambition to add new strange material dollies to your group. At least folk checked their collections and counted basic stuffs of which the dolls were made. You often found out too that this was a surprisingly varied list.

Marye Olson of Hollywood writes to suggest a list of doll hybrids, "useful, ornamental or questionable" that could pass as dolls and yet are really something else. She enumerates:

Pincushion
Tea Bell
Wax Candle
Flower Container
Tea Cozy
Lamp
Telephone Cover
Salts and Peppers

DOLL TALK

A magazine in miniature, published for doll enthusiasts. Issued about every eight weeks.

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Independence, Mo.

AT A CAPITOL CONVENTION

Organizations of a thousand types and aspirations love to have their national conventions in Washington, D. C. Why not? It is the most beautiful capitol city, the most stimulating, perhaps the most important spot on earth.

Mrs. M. E. Ferrell writes:—"The day your box arrived I was starting a four day exhibition of four groups of dolls, the Status of Women (famous women of the world), the Near East, the Women of Scripture, and Latin American. Our Northeastern Jurisdiction Woman's Society of Christian Service was meeting in Washington and had asked for my dolls. There were about seven hundred delegates and officers besides visitors and I feel sure from the crowds visiting my room at all hours, every one attending saw the dolls!

Every week, sometimes even more often, I am asked to bring a group of my dolls to some church, school, club or lodge. I love doing it because only by knowing people of other lands can we learn to understand and love them. I know of no better way to introduce the races than with dolls who look so like people. Again, I thank Kimport for the many

authentic foreign dolls in my over twelve hundred collection. Believe it or not, I know the story of each one too; those history pages have helped me to really know my dolls."

FOUR SCORE AND TEN

As a clipping service enclosure, we received a genteel fragment and a darling picture of Montanari "Patricia," being shown in the window of a Newburyport (Mass.) store. This luscious old wax dolly belongs to Miss Laura Coombs Hills, a famous person in her own right. Miss Hills, now past ninety, is an artist of international fame, having won many awards both in the States and Europe, especially for her exquisitely done miniatures and pastels.

One would suppose that this handsome big doll in her scallop tiered hoopskirts of heavy pink satin, was the girlhood treasure of Miss Laura, but no, this is a different story. A similar doll did belong to her little invalid chum, Minnie Boutin. Minnie's beautiful doll and a trunk full of delightful accessories had come from London. Laura vowed that some day she would sail over to London town and find one for herself!

Well, it was not until the year 1908, good forty years after the pledge that just such a beauty, trunk and all, was found in London. Laura Coombs Hills was an important person by that date. She planned a reception and "coming out tea" for her new acquisition, back home in her Boston studio, which, by the way, must have been quite an event! The name Patricia was in honor of reigning beauty, English Patricia of Connaught.

CORRESPONDENCE CLIPPINGS

"Remember me—the gal who is always complaining about not being able to buy dolls because I'm paying and paying for my masters degree? Finally got it!"—Agnes Carlson, Minn.

"I have made individual displays with tiny dolls for Christmas windows, so am always looking for tiny accessories, etc. There isn't much of the old, out here."—Mrs. M. E. Feehan, Idaho.

"Of course, I am renewing Doll Talk, and 'What does the collection lack?' Mercy, what not? I think it is just plain lacking!"—Patricia Roth, Indiana.

"The dolls have moved downstairs, where we have four new cases with glass doors. Now I can begin to worry about where I am going to put more dolls and more cases!"—Marjorie Stevenson, Montana.

"My doll collection now numbers 110, and is still being used for missionary work. We call it 'God's Global Family'."—Gwennie Joy Reich, Pennsylvania.

"Doll Talk is so informative, and interesting. It has broadened my knowledge and interest in dolls. Thanks for such a little precious book of knowledge!"—Mitzi Bassett, California.

"My apple dolls won second in miscellaneous division at the Pacific National Exhibition at Vancouver. I am still in shock—I had to compete against all types of hobbies as they do not have a doll division." — Erma Lechner, Iowa.

"The doll cabinet looks lovely in the dining room of our new home. Here, they are a part of the family." — Mrs. Robt. Bihn, Pennsylvania.

"Had invitations to exhibit in other towns and even several requests for my autograph—such fun!"—Lucile Clay, West Virginia.

"On Tuesday evening we had forty dinner guests. 'Queen Elizabeth' and 'Mary Queen of Scots' were on a coffee table with a bowl of red tulips and white spirea. They were the recipients of so many compliments. Thank you for helping to make the evening a more interesting one."—Geraldine Green, Texas.

"We are glad you told about the article in December Mademoiselle, 'The Doll People'. Johnny Gruelle was our cousin, so naturally we are interested in anything pertaining to him." — Marion Gruelle, Indiana.

"Please send me the six musicians of the German Band. I think they will 'fit' into our village scene, which we always have on our mantel at Christmas time."—Betty Thompson, Iowa.

"My Hawaii doll accompanied me to a Women's Club Hawaiian Reciprocity luncheon as a final fillip to the lovely decorations of magnolia leaves, wood roses, fish nets, etc. 'Hilo Hattie' was guest speaker and performer and I asked her to autograph the ukelele which the doll carries. She did so, but said she had never autographed such a thing before."—Irene Neilsen, California.

"I have been gradually turning our home furnishings to early American, using old fashion prints for pictures. The two lovely old paper dolls will be dressed ballerina fashion using some fragile tulle I have. Pasted onto a back-drop, and framed, behind glass, they will retain their beauty for all to see and fit right in with our captain's chairs and converted oil lamps." —Gertrude Bruck, New York.

"My apple dolls are still on display in the window of the jewelry store. They used them for Mother's Day, and now Father's Day—they have kept so much interest alive in the window. I've had more fun with those "Jonathans" than anything else, and they've caused more comment."—LaVeta Lefler, Illinois.

"It was interesting to note that at our Doll Show in the fall, many little girls called our old paper dolls, 'cut outs'!"—Virginia Geck, Michigan.

"I enjoy reading about the expensive dolls, and also love the bargains—like these I have just received."—Grace Taylor, Texas.

"Be sure to include all story pages. When painted with water color, these precede my dolls to school so that the youngsters know what—or whom—to look for."—Helen L. Plants, W. Va.

"Since I can't bring Queen Elizabeth, Ben Franklin, Smith, and Lincoln to my literature classes in person I substitute Kimport Dolls—bring the mountain to Mohammed (in miniature)."—Mrs. John Dietschy, California.

"Kathleen was delighted with the Hungarian girl which was presented to her after her piano recital. This gift will give her pleasure much longer than flowers could have done."—Mrs. T. J. Fogel, Pa.

"When the Long Beach and Anaheim clubs met with the L. A. club, we had a "silent auction" of white elephants which made over \$70.00 for their pet charity. Our branch donated \$50.00 for braces for spastic children just this month, so you see we do some good and always we do have a wonderful time!"—Margery Miles, Calif.

"I have three dolls I am sure you would like. A papier-mache which was the grandmother's doll, a china doll the mother's, and a wax one the owner's doll and the owner was about 70 years when I bought them several years ago. Each portrays periods in doll styles and clothing."—Marie Ketterman, Pennsylvania.

THE PRICE OF ORIGINALITY

Mabel Carter cost me fifty cents out of pocket—Oh, she sent in two quarters for a year's Doll Talk subscription, but—well, here's how I am stymied. On a water colored and appliqued card were a pair of tots with tempera coated faces, each on a quarter of a dollar. The body of the eagle thereon is just right in repousse to make a nose, honestly it does, and the rest paints out flat, with eyes, mouth and hair added.

Looking so much like dolls, we have not mustered courage to cash the little pick-pockets. Miss Carter's subscription had to be rung up—so there is a petty cash chit, against, Yours Truly,

R. S. M.

Old Fashioned Ads used to say: "Recommended by Our Loving Friends"

Why should we, at Kimport, wear out our weary brains scheming how to entice you into sending for a Doll of the Month blank—just read what Mrs. Thos. W. Rocco thinks up for us.

"Your Doll of the Month Plan sounds like one sure way for a collection to grow constantly. May I congratulate you for this wonderful idea!

"I will get those Christmas Carolers, once a month, since it will be 'my turn' to have the big Christmas program for my Sunday School class this year. The Carolers will be the centerpiece for the party and then will continue to sing through the Christmas season from my dining room table. To paraphrase Tiny Tim—"God bless Kimport". That tiny little magazine, Doll Talk, gives me much happiness."

Here Is the Kimport Doll of the Month Plan - Its Worth Repeating!

1. You decide about what price doll you will want each month, such as \$5.00, \$7.50, \$10.00 or more.
2. Check your preferences such as foreign, state types, historical, and the sizes.
3. Send us your first remittance when you return the questionnaire and at once we will select your first doll of the month. Each succeeding month on the 15th, we will surprise you with your next doll.
4. If the doll sent prices slightly over or under your remittance, we'll adjust on the next transaction.
5. Of course our guarantee to please you on every doll holds good on this service, as well as regular purchases. You can return dolls for exchange.
6. At the end of the year with your twelfth doll purchased, we'll include a "lucky 13" doll of equal value, free! If for any reason something unforeseen happens and you are forced to discontinue this service before twelve full months, just let us know when you want the service resumed. If this happens you might be able to double up on some months, but if not, your "lucky 13" doll will be included when your twelfth doll is sent along.

By being a member of the Doll of the Month Club, you will be assured of receiving new imports the month they arrive . . . even before the dolls are announced in Doll Talk. Prices will not be reduced on any dolls, but each will be a carefully selected value.

Better Write for a Sample Questionnaire Today

KIMPORT DOLLS

Independence, Mo.